

### **III. REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 9 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 9 have been amended and claims 2-8 and 10-16 have been canceled. Applicant does not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserves the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Further, Applicant reserves the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 4-9 and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Peek (U.S. Patent No. 6,614,551), hereafter “Peek,” in view of Zong (U.S. Pub. No. 2001/0000301 A1), hereinafter “Zong.” Claims 2-3 and 10-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Peek and Zong, further in view of Ohta (U.S. Pub. No. 6,396,848), hereinafter “Ohta.”

Applicant appreciates the Office’s indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3 and 11. Applicant has included the limitations of claims 3 and 11, and any intervening claims, in the base claims 1 and 9. As such, Applicant submits that claims 1 and 9 are allowable. Applicant has canceled claims 2-8 and 10-16. As such, Applicant submits that all pending claims are allowable.

### **IV. CONCLUSION**

In addition to the above arguments, Applicant submits that each of the pending claims is patentable for one or more additional unique features. To this extent, Applicant does not acquiesce to the Office’s interpretation of the claimed subject matter or the references used in

rejecting the claimed subject matter. Additionally, Applicant does not acquiesce to the Office's combinations and modifications of the various references or the motives cited for such combinations and modifications. These features and the appropriateness of the Office's combinations and modifications have not been separately addressed herein for brevity. However, Applicant reserves the right to present such arguments in a later response should one be necessary.

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner require anything further to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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